IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michinobu TANIOKA et al.

Appl. No.: **NEW NON-PROVISIONAL** Group:

Filed: October 29, 2003 Examiner:

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE INSPECTION APPARATUS

AND INSPECTION METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE
FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 29, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should have been forwarded from the International Search Authority pursuant to the trilateral agreement between the USPTO, EPO and JPO. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

a. DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

		Docket No. 8008-1047		
b.	\boxtimes	DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE		
		A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:		
		Abstract is provided		
c.	FOREIGN SEARCH REPORT OR ACTION			
		An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).		
d.		OTHER		
		The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.		
		<u>FEES</u>		

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If The Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

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BC/ma

Enclosures:

□ Documents

Foreign Search Report

Other:_____

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Attorne	ey Doc	ket	No.:

8008-1047

Application No.:

NEW NONPROVISIONA

Applicant:

Michinobu TANIOKA et al.

Filing Date:

October 29, 2003

Group Art Unit:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Subclass Filing date Class **Document Number** Name Examiner (if appropriate) Initial **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS** Translation Class Subclass Country Examiner **Document Number** Date Yes No Initial 12/22/1997 **JAPAN** 9-330960 1/25/2000 **JAPAN** 2000-26082 OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER:

^{*} Abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience